

# ReVA Client Partnerships

EPA's Regional Vulnerability Assessment (ReVA) program is an applied research program that is focused on the synthesis and presentation of existing environmental data and model results to inform multicriteria environmental decision-making through a comprehensive analysis of information on resource condition, sensitivity, and current and projected stressor distributions. To facilitate development of tools and information that can be used directly by decision-makers at levels ranging from regional EPA offices to local communities, ReVA has established a number of client partnerships. These partnerships provide feedback to the ReVA scientists developing tools, demonstrate the application of ReVA approaches and information in real-life decision-making, and start the process of technology transfer to the users.

ReVA's client partnerships include projects at three different scales:

1. Regional
  - EPA Region III (Philadelphia)
  - EPA Region IV (Atlanta)
  - the Canaan Valley Institute (CVI) (WV)
2. State
  - Maryland
  - Pennsylvania
3. Local
  - Charlotte/Rockhill (NC & SC) (SEQL)
  - Baltimore County (MD)

Several of these partnerships are described briefly below.

## EPA Region III

ReVA supports strategic planning towards the long-term goals of:

1. protecting sensitive populations (both human and ecological);
2. protecting watershed health; and,
3. enhancing responsible development.

ReVA will provide support in identifying where outreach efforts should be focused and where opportunities exist to partner with State and local governments to improve environmental conditions.

For more information, contact:

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## Canaan Valley Institute (CVI)



CVI is a non-profit advocacy group that focuses on providing outreach to communities across the mid-Atlantic Highlands. ReVA's partnership with CVI will take up the next step in targeting risk management activities following the

assessment of vulnerabilities across the region by prioritizing areas for restoration. CVI will also be testing the integration of regional scale data and analyses with finer-scale data and studies for informing local environmental management decisions and mitigating potential stressors.

For more information, contact:

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## Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources

The MD-DNR is basically the conservation steward of the State with responsibility for protection of the State's natural resources. For some time, MD-DNR has been developing analytical tools and indicators for implementation of watershed and landscape conservation and restoration. ReVA's partnership with MD-DNR will assist in the development of a State-level decision tool that will support the State's *strategic* program implementation to enhance protection of critical habitat and water quality. The partnership will have four major elements:



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1. identifying and developing the models, tools, and indicators necessary to interpret stressor-receptor relationships within Maryland at various spatial scales;
2. developing scientifically-defensible methods for assessing watershed and landscape condition and function, the effect of future land management scenarios on those functions, and the determination of threshold values for various indicators at different spatial scales;
3. developing and providing analytical tools and data to the public through a user-friendly interface via the Internet; and,
4. integrating economic, ecosystem valuation, and ecological information through the creation of decision support systems.

For more information, contact:

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## Charlotte/Rock Hill (SEQL)

The Sustainable Environment for Quality of Life (SEQL) is a partnership between EPA (the Office of Research and Development (via ReVA) and the Office of Air Quality, Planning, and Standards (OAQPS)), the State of North Carolina, the State of South Carolina, and local governments in a 15-county region in the two states.

This region has 75 political jurisdictions, and SEQL provides a framework for the partners to work together to minimize negative impacts of continuous development and to maintain and enhance the livability of communities in this rapidly growing area. SEQL's objectives include:

- Implementation of Sustainability Demonstration Project "commitment action items"
- Design of a regional database for improved decision-making
- Government/public/stakeholder orientation to the concept of integrated cross-sectoral planning and development of methods to implement it
- Institutionalization of consideration of integrated environmental impacts in local and regional planning and decision-making

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## ReVA

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